

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1054

By Hawk

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend George Birdwell upon being named the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Boating Officer of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, George Birdwell is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birdwell was recently named the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) Boating Officer of the Year, an honor most befitting his status as a law enforcement officer of the highest order who serves as an exceptional asset to his community and all those who enjoy Tennessee's magnificent recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, greatly admired and respected by his co-workers, George Birdwell is a boating officer in TWRA's Area 43 and is held in high esteem for his expertise, his common sense, and his outstanding leadership; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birdwell's assigned work area in East Tennessee includes seven counties and four large reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating the highest degree of professionalism, George Birdwell inspected 405 vessels for compliance and issued twenty-one court citations and six warnings within the past year; and

WHEREAS, he also conducted eight Boating Under the Influence (BUI) investigations, made three BUI arrests, and was responsible for the recovery of three stolen boats; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birdwell performed admirably as lead investigator on one fatal boat accident and three property damage accidents, and provided valuable assistance in the

investigation of four other fatal accidents, ten serious injury accidents, and thirteen property damage accidents; and

WHEREAS, eager to accept new challenges, including advanced training, George Birdwell incorporated boating safety education into Greeneville's high school driver's education curriculum and performed numerous public outreach programs with his award-winning BUI simulator; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birdwell also serves as an investigation instructor for the Agency, teaching such courses as Emergency Vessel Operations, Close Quarter Boat Handling, BUI, and Boating Accidents; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, George Birdwell has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate George Birdwell upon being named Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Boating Officer of the Year, honor his exemplary professional career and his many valuable contributions to our State, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.